

Rochester NY – GTC Walkability

23-April-2015, facilitated by Mark Fenton

Program

- Create an urban trail network identifying walking destinations, focused on points of interests. Sites can be historic, photo worthy, great business or foot establishments, all types of destinations . . .
- Create an app for the “walk Rochester” effort, allowing people to find and collect these types of trails and destinations.
- Bicycle parking program at local business clusters. City has a stock of bike racks and an on-line request program.
- Launch a coffee shop, green grocer or similar business at the Culver 5-way cluster, through a local-area activated cooperative or non-profit.
- Program the Glenn Haven trail. Work with merchants all along the corridor to create events, music, destinations (such as benches, picnic tables, umbrellas), water fountains; any incentives to use.
- Educate realty businesses on the value connected to walkability, give them the research.

Project

- Improve Culver during repaving. Add high visibility crosswalk painting, especially from St Marks to 5-way intersection. Could include yield to pedestrian in crosswalk signs. Short term include curb extensions wherever possible to shorten crossing distances and add some traffic calming.
- Redesign Merchants Rd. Take away the parking, and add center median island at intersections on the side with no left turn movement. Can be textured surface (cobblestone) or raised islands with plantings. Include pedestrian refuge with offset crossing so pedestrian is facing traffic. Include painting of center line and fog line; could even paint crossing islands, and include “yield to pedestrian in crosswalk signs.” (Many votes for this)
- Include improved quality of lighting, making the case for improved real estate values; also make LED to decrease energy cost, so recouped savings pay for lights. Irondequoit uses lighting districts. Note that RG&E is interested in updating older in infrastructure.
- Culver-Merchants-Culver Parkway 5-way intersection. Always include pedestrian phase with a leading pedestrian interval. Repaint crosswalks with

- high visibility. Curb extensions wherever possible. Also no right turn allowed from Culver to Merchants (and make clear with existing signage). Make pedestrian connection from sidewalk to the Rite Aid pharmacy.
- Façade improvements at Culver-Merchants retail cluster (ideally through existing grant program).
 - Connect Farmington Park to School 52 with high quality pedestrian link across north side of electrical substation property – high visibility, open, inviting link from front door of the
 - Complete the Glenn Haven Rail Trail, connecting to Dollar Store retail cluster at Culver-Garson intersection. Provide adequate traffic calming at road crossings to assure safety, ranging from
 - o Painted crosswalks and identifying signs.
 - o Center median island (raised, or just textured)
 - o Speed table – raised, flat-topped crosswalk. Note: Raised crosswalk may be best treatment for Merchants Rd.
 - Garson bike boulevard improvement – Mini-roundabout at the Garson-Culver intersection. Create a right-in/right-out only intersection for the Dollar General.

Policy

- Require Multi-modal Transportation Analysis all the time. Always estimate potential best-case pedestrian, bicycle, and transit trips, and provide mitigation in each category.
- When permitting retail, require building up at the sidewalk (and board must not waive!!!) and full pedestrian and improvement
- Launch the Active Transportation Site Improvement grant program that supports health redesign of set-back retail. E.g. create sidewalk extension into the parking area, create a painted walkway to the front door, add high quality bicycle parking (covered when possible) and transit stop facilities (pad, bench, shelter). Create a demonstration project at Rite Aid at the five corners, provide a ribbon cutting event with local residents, Rite Aid, city, and then roll out city-wide.
- Sidewalk repairs have to be concrete, not asphalt. Street tree replacements have to be appropriate for the setting (root depth, width of tree lawn, etc.)
- Monroe County is updating all pedestrian signals to include countdown timers, adding auditory signals where possible.

- Institute 5-minute safety delay for motor vehicles at schools, to assure pedestrians, bicyclists, and bus riders can depart safely before allowing the cars to move. Combine this walking school bus encouragement programs, and infrastructure safety (Many votes).

Irondequoit:

- Shelton Road traffic calming
 - o High visibility crosswalk striping
 - o Include center line and fog line to
 - o Consider NO center line, but wide fog lines with possible 3 to 4 foot shoulders.